

AM9-99-0216
09/531,016In the Claims:

1-21. (previously cancelled)

22. (currently amended) A method of mapping electronic calendar events to at least one topic publisher providing a service comprising the steps of:

receiving a calendar event entry for an event associated with a topic subscriber;

identifying a category associated with said calendar entry and at least one service

associated with said category;

mapping said calendar event event to a set of topic names for said services;

determining the existence of identifying one or more topic channels provided by said topic publisher which are associated with said topic names, said topic channels linked with topic channels remotely provided by said topic publisher;

incorporating, within said calendar event, a link to to at least one service, at least one service relating to one of said one or more topic channels of said event, and

receiving frequently updated service messages from said topic publisher for said topic names and topic channels that are associated with said calendar event.

23. (cancelled)

24. (currently amended) A method of mapping electronic calendar events to at least one topic publisher providing a service, as per claim 22-23, comprising the additional step of parsing said calendar event to identify at least one event category, wherein said at least one event category is used when determining said one or more topic channels.

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25. (cancelled)

26. (currently amended) A method of mapping electronic calendar events to at least one topic publisher providing a service, as per claim 22, ~~25,~~ comprising the additional step of parsing said calendar event to identify at least one event characteristic, wherein said at least one event characteristic is used when determining said one or more topic channels.

27. (currently amended) A method of mapping electronic calendar events to at least one topic publisher providing a service, as per claim 22, wherein said step of incorporating a link further comprises:

for each of said one or more topic channels, performing the steps:

determining if a link to a related service already exists; and

if said link to said service does not exist, creating and opening said link, ~~and~~

~~if said link to said service does exist, then opening said link.~~

28. (cancelled)

29. (currently amended) A method of mapping electronic calendar events to at least one topic publisher providing a service, as per claim 22, wherein said one or more ~~information topics are published as one or more topic channels~~ are provided by a topic publisher providing an information service.

30. (currently amended) A method of mapping electronic calendar events to at least one topic publisher providing a service, as per claim 22, further comprising the step:

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~~persistently~~ storing, in a persistent computer storage, said calendar event.

31. (previously presented) A method of mapping electronic calendar events to at least one topic publisher providing a service, as per claim 22, wherein said method is implemented locally or remotely on one or more computer-based systems.

32. (previously presented) A method of mapping electronic calendar events to at least one topic publisher providing a service, as per claim 22, wherein said method is implemented across networks comprising any of LANs, WANs, cellular, Internet, or Web-based networks.

33. (currently amended) A method of creating topic channels for linking calendar events to service messages from a topic publisher comprising the steps:

receiving a calendar event entry for an event associated with a topic subscriber;

determining a set of topic names for at least one service associated with said calendar event entry;

for each particular topic name in said set of topic names, performing the following steps:

determining if a corresponding topic channel exists for said particular topic name, said topic channels linked with topic channels remotely provided by said topic publisher;

if said topic channel does not exist, then creating a corresponding topic channel;

and

~~if said topic channel does exist, then identifying said topic channel as a corresponding topic channel, and~~

adding said corresponding topic channel to a set of topic channels;

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for each ~~particular~~-topic channel in said set of topic channels, creating a link, in said calendar event, to said ~~particular~~-topic channel, and
receiving frequently updated service messages from said topic publisher for said topic names and topic channels that are associated with said event.
~~persistently storing said calendar event.~~

34. (previously presented) A method of linking calendar events to service messages from a topic publisher, as per claim 33, wherein said step of determining a set of topic names further comprises the steps:

extracting from said calendar event one or more event descriptors, and
determining, based on said one or more event descriptors, said set of topic names.

35. (previously presented) A method of linking calendar events to service messages from a topic publisher, as per claim 34, wherein said one or more event descriptors are event categories.

36. (previously presented) A method of linking calendar events to service messages from a topic publisher, as per claim 34, wherein said one or more event descriptors are event characteristics.

37. (previously presented) A method of linking calendar events to service messages from a topic publisher, as per claim 33, wherein said method is implemented across networks comprising any of LANs, WANs, cellular, Internet, or Web-based networks.

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38. (previously presented) A method of linking calendar events to service messages from a topic publisher, as per claim 33, wherein said method is implemented locally or remotely on one or more computer-based systems.

39. (currently amended) A subscription system for mapping a topic subscriber creating electronic calendar events to a topic publisher, said system comprising:

a calendar server handling request for a new calendar ~~event~~entry, said server comprising:

a request handler receiving a request for said calendar ~~event~~entry for an event
associated with a topic subscriber to be scheduled;

a topic selector identifying a category associated with said calendar entry and at
least one service associated with said category;

a topic binding repository mapping said calendar event to a set of topic names for
said services;

a topic finder, determining the existence of a set of topic channels provided by said topic publisher, wherein said channels correspond to said topic names received from said repository, and said topic finder further identifying at least a first and second subset of said set of topic channels;

said first subset populated by topic channels which currently exist within said calendar system;

said second subset populated by topic channels which currently do not exist within said calendar system;

a topic creator, creating within the calendar system a set of new topic channels corresponding to each element of said second subset, said topic creator then returning said new channels to said topic finder in order to establish a subscription

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for frequently updated collections of information to be forwarded to a topic selector, said topic selector retrieving said topic names and topic channels associated with said calendar event as established by said topic finder, and wherein said request handler processes said calendar event by adding a link in said calendar event to each associated topic channel received from said topic selector, said topic channel passing messages from a topic publisher to a topic subscriber, and frequently updating service messages from said topic publisher for said topic names and topic channels associated with said event.

~~persistently storing said event for retrieval.~~

40. (previously presented) A subscription system for mapping a topic subscriber creating electronic calendar events to a topic publisher, as per claim 39, wherein said repository also extracts at least one event category for said calendar event which said repository uses to determine said list of topic names.

41. (previously presented) A subscription system for mapping a topic subscriber creating electronic calendar events to a topic publisher, as per claim 39, wherein said repository also extracts at least one event characteristic for said calendar event which said repository uses to determine said list of topic names.

42. (currently amended) An article of manufacture comprising a computer user medium having a computer readable program code embodied therein which implements mapping calendar events to service messages from topic providers, said subscribing comprising the steps:

receiving a calendar event entry for an event associated with a topic subscriber;

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identifying a category associated with said calendar entry and at least one service

associated with said category;

mapping said calendar event to a set of topic names for said services;

determining the existence of one or more topic channels, provided by said topic publisher,

which are associated with said topic names;

opening at least one subscription for said service, each of said at least one subscription

corresponding to one of said one or more topic channels of said event,

incorporating, within said calendar event, a link to each of said at least one subscription,

and

receiving frequently updated service messages from said topic publisher for said topic

names and topic channels that are associated with said calendar event.

43. (new) A method of mapping electronic calendar events to at least one topic publisher providing a service, as per claim 22, wherein said step of identifying one or more topic channels further comprises the step wherein if no topic channels are identified for a specific topic name, creating a new topic channel corresponding to said specific topic name, wherein said new topic channel links said calendar entry with a corresponding topic channel remotely provided by a topic publisher.